# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# AGRICULTURE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3847
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2005
VIRUS AFFECTED POTATOES
Kushwaha Shri Narendra Kumar;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government is aware of the reports of virus affected production of potatoes appeared in Rashtriya Sahara dated July 30, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Pakistan has imposed ban on the import of Indian Potatoes;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government has conducted any test to the potatoes being exported to Pakistan;

(f) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(g) the total quantum of potatoes in tonnes exported to Pakistan so far during the current year?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Potato Leaf Curl virus infection at trace to low level was reported in Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Hoshiyarpur, Lucknow Barabanki, Pratapgarh, Unnao and Kangra districts during the period December, 2004 to March, 2005.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.

(e) & (f): The potatoes exported to Pakistan are subjected to inspection and testing to ensure freedom from pests and diseases and are, thereafter, certified to be pest free.

(g): Two Phytosanitary Certificates for export of 30 MT of potatoes to Pakistan have been issued during the current year.